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PATENT 030574

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Confirmation No.

Examiner:

In re application of:

WIRE PROTECTOR AND RETAINER

Ryals, et al.

Serial No.: 10/718,425

Filed: November 20, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pittsburgh, PA 15222 February 20, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Applicants, in accordance with the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, hereby advise the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08B *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant*. A copy of each of the cited non-patent references is herewith enclosed.

Express Mail Number EU990159000US

Date of Deposit February 20, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Appl. No. 10/718,425 Attorney Docket No. 030574

Applicants note that although the cited references may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant* "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)."

Applicants further note that the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement by*Applicant is not an admission that the references cited herein constitute prior art under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102-103 with respect to the captioned application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), Applicants submit that no fee is necessary for consideration of this *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant*. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additionally required fees deemed necessary for consideration of this *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant* to Account No. 11-1110.

Respectfully submitted.

Craig M. Waller

Registration No. 54,771

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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			Complete if Known		
Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Application Number	10/718,425	
			Filing Date	November 20, 2003	
INFORMATION DIS	CLOS	SURE	First Named Inventor	Ryals	
STATEMENT BY A	PPLIC	CANT	Art Unit		
1			Examiner Name		
(use as many sheets as	s neces	ssary)			
Sheet 1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	030574	

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner	examiner Cite Document Num		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
Initials*	No.1	Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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	Examiner Name			
(use as many sheets as necessary)				
Sheet 2 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	030574		

	NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Cite No.1		Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published			
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